

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, HELD AT THE GRANGE HALL, COVENTRY ROAD, SOUTHAM ON THURSDAY 28th FEBRUARY 2013

Present: Councillors: M Gaffney (Chair), J Soni, L Tasker, V Shepherd, E Thornley, L Smith, M Willoughby, L Hewer, C Worsh, J Smith, B Thomas & C Pratt

In attendance: Mrs D Carro, Mrs D Sanders , Cllr J Ellard, Cllr D Wise, Cllr A Crump, Cllr J Appleton

145. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr J Ward – Work Commitment
Cllr A Forster - Personal

146. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr C Pratt	Personal Interest Churchyard Reason	Town Clerk Report Item 8 - Town Ownership of plot
	Personal Interest Reason	Town Clerk Report Item 9 – Graham Adams Centre Grant Application Town Council Representative
Cllr C Worsh	Personal Interest Tollgate Road Lease Reason School	Town Clerk Confidential Report Item 2 – Children Attend St James C of E Primary School
Cllr L Tasker	Personal Interest Application Reason	Town Clerk Report Item 9 – VASA Grant VASA Board Member
Cllr B Thomas	Personal Interest Centre Grant Application Reason	Town Clerk Report Item 9 – Graham Adams Spouse is a Director
Cllr L Smith	Personal Interest Bloom and Christmas Lights Grant Application Reason	Town Clerk Report Item 9 – Southam in Town Council Representative
Cllr J Soni	Personal Interest Centre Grant Application Reason	Town Clerk Report Item 9 – Graham Adams Director
	Personal Interest Reason	Town Clerk Report Item 9 – Christmas Lights Grant Application Town Council Representative

147. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mrs D Smith, 20 Springs Crescent, Southam

Spoke regarding advertising material being left around the town and on roundabouts following Southam First Events. Stated that it had been a long time since a request was made for Play Area Warning Signs for the Mayfield Road and Park Lane Play Areas; wanted to know why none had been installed yet

148. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

i) That the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 12th January 2013 be confirmed and signed by the Mayor

ii) That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 24th January 2013, having previously been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor subject to the following amendments:

Present – To remove C Pratt

Minute 133.3 – To remove bullet point in front of ‘Should’

Minute 133.5 should read Southam

Minute 134 – Minute 133.5 should read 134.5 and should read Thank you For Flooding Advice

149. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED:

That payment of accounts dated February 2013, totalling £7,021.01 be authorised.

150. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

i) Council considered the applications for planning permission detailed on the schedule dated February 2013 upon which the Town Council had been consulted by Stratford District Council.

ii) Planning Application decisions dated February 2013

Noted

iii) Planning Committee Meeting Dates

Noted

151. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

151.1 PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS

Mrs D Smith

- Was advised that Southam First would be requested to remove all advertising material and that in future all advertising material should be removed within a week following the event. The Town Council representative would raise the matter at the next Southam First Board Meeting.
- The Town Clerk would chase WCC again for a response relating to the Play Area signage

151.2 SOUTHAM FIRST – TOWN CENTRE PARTNERSHIP REPORT

Members considered the report

That the report is noted and that the Town Council Representative is to raise the matter of assumptions and contradictions stated in the report at the next Southam First Board Meeting

151.3 TESCO S106 EXPENDITURE – SETH BOND MEMORIAL

Members were advised that following a meeting the Mayor had with the Leader of Stratford District Council it has been agreed that the monies expended from the Tesco S106 funds would be reimbursed; the Mayor was thanked. A discussion took place regarding the Tesco S106 Expenditure Report

RESOLVED:

That the Mayor meets with the Lead Officer to discuss the report and clarify matters

151.4 SOUTHAM CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

Members considered correspondence seeking financial help to fund the toilets for this year's carnival

RESOLVED:

That the Town Council will fund the full cost of the portable toilets

151.5 SOUTHAM FIRST TOWN IMPROVEMENT SUB-GROUP- BUSINESS BOARD

Members considered the proposal for a Business/Noticeboard for Wood Street Car Park; the total approximate cost is £7310, which will be funded from Tesco S106 monies. The Town Council was being asked to enter into a Licence with SDC in order to take responsibility for the Business /Noticeboard and its future maintenance.

RESOLVED:

- i)To respond stating that the Council cannot consider the project until they are in receipt of the proposed Licence and 'Art Work' for the Business Map**
- ii)The Council is not happy with the cost and would like justification for the costings and why such a board is needed**

151.6 STREET LIGHTING MAINTENANCE 2013/2014

RESOLVED:

That the Council accepts the quotation of £7.46 per lighting point for maintenance of the Town Council's street lights for financial year 2013/14

151.7 THE INNER WHEEL CLUB OF SOUTHAM – PROPOSED PLANTING IN THE PEACE GARDEN

RESOLVED:

That the Town Council welcomes The Inner Wheel Club of Southam plan to plant a small tree/rose bush with a small plaque in the Peace Garden to mark their 40th Anniversary , subject to the approval of SDC

151.8 ST JAMES PARISH CHURCH – TOWN CHURCHYARD MEETING

Members considered the minutes of the meeting

RESOLVED:

- i)That a public meeting is held**
- ii)That expert advice and costings are sought in order to be able to explain the situation in detail to the public**

151.9 S137 GRANT APPLICATIONS

Members considered S137 Grant Applications

RESOLVED:

- i)To award S137 Grants to the following organisations:**

Southam Christmas Lights -	£2500
Southam Civic Ideas Forum -	£0
Southam in Bloom -	£1500
Southam Carnival -	£840
Southam and Bishops Itchington Congregational Church -	£5000

That the money is not released until the Town Council is in receipt of evidence that all monies required for the project have been obtained

Southam First (Living History) - £2500

That the money is not released until the Town Council is in receipt of evidence that all monies required for the project have been obtained

Southam & District Lions - £1000

John Turner Festival

of Arts & Crafts - £250

VASA - £850

Southam & Districts

Children's Centre £1000

ii) That under the Local Government Act 1972 2a Power to provide information and advice a financial contribution is made to the following organisation:

Stratford upon Avon District Citizens Advice Bureau - £887.50

151.10 MEETINGS/TRAINING/EVENTS

- Saturday 27th April 2013 – Being a Good Councillor and Clerk Induction Day – Lapworth Village Hall

151.11 COUNCIL MEETING DATES ENV MEETING DATES

Thursday 28 th March 2013	Thursday 14 th March 2013
Thursday 25 th April 2013	Thursday 11 th April 2013
Thursday 9 th May 2013 (Annual Town Meeting & Mayormaking)	
Thursday 23 rd May 2013	
Thursday 27 th June 2013	Thursday 13 th June 2013
Thursday 25 th July 2013	Thursday 11 th July 2013
August Recess	
Thursday 26 th September 2013	Thursday 12 th September 2013
Thursday 24 th October 2013	Thursday 10 th October 2013
Thursday 28 th November 2013	Thursday 14 th November 2013
December Recess	

Noted

152. CORRESPONDENCE

152.1 SOUTHAM CIVIC IDEAS FORUM – FEBRUARY MINUTES

Noted

153. REPORT ON A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING PARTY ON 14TH FEBRUARY 2013

153.1 BENCH MARKING SURVEY

Members considered correspondence from Southam First seeking volunteers to carry out the surveys. The provisional dates have been set for Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th April.

Cllr Soni and Cllr Forster volunteered to attend either day, Cllr L Smith volunteered for Monday 8th April 2013 only

Noted

153.2 PARKING BAYS AND PARKING RESTRICTIONS – CRAVEN LANE

Cllr Ward is seeking support from the Town Council for his request for parking bays and parking restrictions in Craven Lane

That Cllr Ward submits a Members Item

Noted

153.3 GRAHAM ADAMS CENTRE

Members considered an invitation from The Graham Adams Centre who would like to invite any Councillor for a tour of the premises, Bridge Café and Youth Centre, in order to raise awareness of the work of the Centre in the Community.

A date can be arranged with the centre on a Monday, Tuesday or Friday morning.

Interested Councillors would arrange their own visits

Noted

153.4 MAYFIELD ROAD PLAY AREA SURVEY

As part of the grant application a survey regarding the Mayfield Road Play Area had to be carried out. This has been carried out by the Children's Centre and Members considered the results.

- One comment was that there are no baby swings – Swings were not included because the H & S legislation requires so much room around the swings thus hardly anything else could be installed.
- More fencing as children are tempted to run onto other peoples gardens and property

There is already fencing on one side of the play area to keep children safe and to stop them running into the road the cost of this fencing was £3400, more fencing may not be feasible as it may come too close to the equipment

RESOLVED:

Cllr Ward, Cllr Forster and Cllr Soni to attend a site meeting with the Town Clerk to determine the best course of action, if any

153.5 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Members reviewed the list

RESOLVED:

That the Appointments to Outside Bodies remain the same except for the following changes:

Personnel Working Party – add Cllr C Pratt

Play Area Development - to collaborate with Southam @ Play

Citizens Advice Bureau – new representative Cllr A Forster

Grange Hall Management Committee – new representative Cllr E Thornley

WALC Parish Liaison Committee for Stratford on Avon District – new representative Cllr V Shepherd

Youth Club Management Committee – new representative Cllr J Soni

Southam Church and Community Project – remove Cllr Soni and add Cllr C Pratt

Senior Citizens Action Group – To write to SCAN to ascertain if it requires a Town Council representative

Southam Town Centre Development – add Cllr B Thomas

153.6 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

See attached

153.7 CCTV REPORT

Members considered the latest CCTV report and were asked to make any suggestions for improvements. Is there any information that Members would like to see recorded and currently isn't?

Also, at the Precept Meeting, Cllr Pratt expressed an interest to visit the CCTV Control Room, please indicate if any other Councillors wish to attend so arrangements can be made

RESOLVED:

- i) All records are kept for review and be used prior to precept meeting to determine value for money**
- ii) To arrange CCTV Control Room visit for Cllr Pratt, Cllr Forster, Cllr L Smith and Cllr Shepherd, preferably one evening**
- iii) That the report show a running total**
- iv) That the report is included in the Town Council papers under correspondence**

153.8 QUESTIONS FOR COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

- 1. What is the finalised switch off plan for streetlights in Southam, which lights are effected and what operating times will be used**
- 2. Access through the underpass in times of floods is becoming an issue, what steps can Councillors take to remedy the situation as pedestrians are forced to cross the by-pass. Whose responsibility is this?**
- 3. The "Bedroom Tax" will this affect Southam residents, if so, when will this come into force?**

Point 1. Cllr Appleton advise that the part-lighting plan had been finalised and details can be found on the WCC website

Point 2. Cllr Appleton advised that he will investigate this matter further

Point 3. Cllr Ellard tabled a report

153.9 AOB

- There is offensive graffiti on the underpass, can the Town Clerk arrange for it to be removed by District/County**
- Farmers Market signs on some roundabouts are being left in situ full time, Town Clerk to request that these signs are removed**

154. MEMBERS ITEMS

154.1 CLLR C PRATT

To request that Southam Town Council send a letter of congratulations to The Right Reverend Justin Welby former Rector of St James Parish Church, Southam on his appointment as Archbishop of Canterbury

RESOLVED:

That a letter of congratulations is sent to The Right Reverend Justin Welby on his appointment as Archbishop of Canterbury

155. INFORMATION FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr J Ellard advised the following:

- Provided a report regarding the 'Bedroom Tax'

- Has spoken to the Planning Department regarding their lack of consistency when considering illuminated signage
- Advised that Budgens is closing down and a Home Factory Shop will be its replacement. Goodwins has been made aware of the situation as it may affect its business

Cllr A Crump advised the following:

- That there is Town Council representation on the Shop Front Grant Panel
- WCC have been very prompt regarding street lighting repairs
- Has been assisting residents who are having problems with Orbit getting repairs done

Cllr D Wise advised the following:

- Has passed information to the Town Clerk relating to illuminated signage
- Spoke about the fence at 5 Priors Meadow

Cllr J Appleton advised the following:

- That WCC Council Tax will not increase

156. BUSINESS WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE MAYOR SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY

None

157. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC FROM THE MEETING

It was moved and

RESOLVED: that pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public be excluded from the meeting because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

158. STAFF SALARIES AND PAYMENT FOR SERVICES

RESOLVED:

To authorise payments of staff salaries dated February 2013

159. TOLLGATE ROAD LEASE

Members considered the proposed Lease

RESOLVED:

- i) That the Town Council agree with the terms of the Lease but would like to see a 'Weight Limit' for maintenance vehicles included in the Lease**
- ii) That the Town Clerk and Town Mayor are authorized to sign the Lease in conjunction with the Deputy Mayor**
- iii) That a Press Release is issued as a matter of urgency to inform residents of the situation**

Meeting closed 9.55pm

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS B
SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL FEBRUARY 2013 Issue 2

APPLICATION NO.	APPLICANT NAME	SITE	PROPOSAL	OBSERVATION DATE/COMMENT	Additional Information
12/01500/FUL	EDF Energy Renewals	Land running from the A423, South West of Wormleighton, to Land East and North East of Wormleighton at Stoneton	Erection of 9 wind turbines up to a maximum tip height of 125 metres, and other ancillary development including a new vehicular access from the A423 south of Fenny Compton Wharf, access tracks, vehicular access from the C35 east of wormleighton, crane hardstandings, bridge crossing of the Oxford Canal, control building, cabling, construction compound and	Notification as an adjoining Parish Council - please be aware that as an adjoining Council your comments will not trigger this application being determined at a Planning	Southam Town Council opposes this application for the following planning reasons: a) the application is contrary to Policy PR.1. The proposed development fails to either enhance or respect the quality and character of the area b) It is contrary to Policy PR.5 since the proposed development would have a significant detrimental effect on the environment and the character of the local area particularly in respect of visual impact c) also, contrary to Policy PR.5. the proposal would have a significant and unreasonable adverse effect on existing dwellings and the extensive farm industry that exist in this area. The Council is aware that there is strong local opposition to these proposals and it wholeheartedly support local opinion which is against these unnecessary and unwelcome proposals.
13/00252/FUL	Mr Graham Spencer (Orbit Homes)	Warwickshire Police Authority, Southam Police Station, High Street, Southam CV47 0HB	Erection of two new raise arm vehicular barriers	4th March 2013	No Representations
13/00266/EXT	Mr Jamie MacDonald	2 Old Road, Southam CV47 1HP	Extension of time to previously approved application (ref 10/00441/FUL) for the erection of a two storey extension	4th March 2013	No Representations
13/00310/EXT	Mrs Nancy Oliver	48 Warwick Road, Southam CV47 0HW	Extension of time to previously approved application (ref 10/00090/FUL) for the erection of a single storey side and two storey rear extension	11th March 2013	No Representations
13/00245/FUL	Mrs Beverley King (Starre Ltd)	14 Market Hill, Southam CV47 0HF	Replace existing bay windows and front door with new windows and door	14th March 2013	No Representations